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1. POSITION OF IRAQI PREMIER THREATENED

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Prime Minister Nuri Said's attempts to appease hostility against his government and against Britain which erupted in Iraq following the Anglo-French intervention in Egypt appear to have been only partially successful. Serious disturbances occurred again on 19 and 21 November in Baghdad when the government lifted the restrictions imposed as a result of the early November disturbances. According to the [REDACTED] ambassador, a large demonstration is planned for 29 November. He has grave doubts that the Nuri government can hold out much longer against rising popular pressures.

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These pressures will continue, particularly if the British and French delay their withdrawal from Suez, and if economic hardship begins in Iraq as a result of the loss of oil revenues. The Nuri government has sought to avoid a break with Britain, but in an attempt to appease popular sentiment it has declared that it will not participate in Baghdad pact councils attended by British representatives. It has also broken relations with France and made strong anti-Israeli statements.

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2. SOVIET HARASSMENT OF ALLIED RAIL ACCESS TO BERLIN

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The new inspection procedures imposed by the USSR on Allied military trains traveling between Berlin and West Germany were not consistently carried out between 23 to 25 November. In some instances the trains have passed through the East German border checkpoint at Marienborn with a minimum of difficulty, while one train was delayed for three hours and another was turned back after a two-hour delay on the grounds that schedules were disrupted. The Soviet authorities did not carry out their threat to start boarding trains on the night of 25-26 November.

Comment

Although the USSR denies that it is challenging Western right of access to Berlin, the unilateral effort to impose new travel regulations may presage a serious attempt to establish more rigid controls over Western travel to Berlin.

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3. FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS IN POLAND

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The American embassy in Warsaw comments that the destruction by a mob of a radio jamming station in Bydgoszcz in northern Poland reflects a continued willingness to defy authority. Delayed Polish newspaper accounts of this incident, which took place on 18 November, attempted to minimize it by attributing it to "hooligans" and have appealed for calm during the present unsettled period.

The embassy reports that the riots apparently lasted about eight hours, and resulted in attacks on police and party headquarters before the rioters were dispersed.

Comment

The open disavowal of the Soviet line on Hungary by Polish newspapers in recent days could encourage new popular demonstrations against the USSR, which would lead to Soviet military intervention if the Gomulka regime were unable to control them. The Polish announcement of 24 November that jamming of Western radio broadcasts has been ended will, however, eliminate this specific object of popular resentment. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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5. RUMANIA BELIEVED TO BE BUILDING CASE AGAINST
US LEGATION PERSONNEL

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The American minister in Bucharest believes that the recent increase in apparent provocation attempts indicates that the Rumanians may be attempting to lay the basis for declaring certain legation personnel persona non grata. Minister Thayer feels that the Rumanians, by accusing the legation of fabricating stories of student disturbances and Hungarian deportations, could strengthen their propaganda campaign against the United States.

Comment

American-Rumanian relations had improved considerably prior to the Hungarian revolt, and preliminary discussions between the two governments to settle long-outstanding problems were concluded on 3 November.

Growing internal unrest, as well as developments in Hungary and Poland, has deeply disturbed Rumania's top leaders and has resulted in a renewed press campaign of vilification of the United States.

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6. SUKARNO MOVING TOWARD PERSONAL RULE



Sukarno reportedly plans to hold a meeting with party leaders in mid-December to introduce his plan for a simplification of the party system. He has suggested that political parties "be buried" or that they at least subordinate their differences in the interest of the state.

In a statement to a student gathering on 26 November, Sukarno expressed admiration for construction and development work in the Sino-Soviet bloc which, he implied, should serve as a guide for Indonesia. Sukarno had earlier announced a program to give Indonesia what he calls a "guided democracy." (CONFIDENTIAL)

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